

October 19, 2025

STRAIGHTENED OUT BY JESUS

Luke 13.10-21

Incurvatus in se is a Latin phrase, likely first coined by Augustine of Hippo in the 5th century and later developed by theologian Martin Luther to describe the human condition. Literally meaning “turned inward on oneself,” it captures the idea that human beings are naturally inclined to live self-centered lives—focused inward for one’s own sake rather than outward in love for God and others.

The scriptures support this concept:

Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
Psalm 51.5

We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way...
Isaiah 53.6

See also Jeremiah 17.9, Romans 7.18 -20

In today’s story, Luke describes humanity’s plight in a healing story of Jesus.

On a Sabbath Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues, and a woman was there who had been crippled by a spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not straighten up at all.
Luke 13.10-11

1. Like the woman in this story, all of us are **BENT** and our **BENT-NESS** causes us to not **SEE STRAIGHT**.

2. Jesus sees our condition and calls us to himself to **FREE US** and **STRAIGHTEN US OUT**.

When Jesus saw her, he called her forward and said to her, “Woman, you are set free from your infirmity.” v12

3. Every time we encounter Jesus we face a challenge: **STAY BENT** or do the harder work of getting **STRAIGHTENED OUT**.

When he said this, all his opponents were humiliated... Luke 13.17

4. And in this Jesus redemption story Luke also wants us to remember that **A LITTLE BIT** in God’s direction can produces **VOLUMES** of **GOOD**.

Then Jesus asked, “What is the kingdom of God like? What shall I compare it to? It is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his garden. It grew and became a tree, and the birds perched in its branches.”

Again he asked, “What shall I compare the kingdom of God to? It is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pound of flour until it worked all through the dough.” vv18-21

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What is God saying to me?

What am I going to do about it?

Love God, Love Others, Learn Jesus, DO SOMETHING!

Today’s sermon can be found on our website beaverdambaptist.org